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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Takeshi TAKEZAWA

Group Art Unit: 2875

Application No.: 10/798,448

Examiner: A. REHM

Filed: March 12, 2004

Docket No.: 119082

For: ILLUMINATION DEVICE AND PROJECTOR EQUIPPING THE SAME

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the February 6, 2006 Office Action, reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks. Claims 1-24 are pending in this application.

It is alleged in the Office Action, in paragraph 1, that claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 11-14, 19, 20, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,734,628 to Seki et al. (hereinafter "Seki"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Seki teaches a discharge lamp including a luminous bulb in which a luminous material is enclosed and a pair of electrodes are opposed to each other in the luminous bulb (Abstract). Seki discloses that at least one of a pair of sealing portions of the electrodes is provided with a reflective film on a surface of the sealing portion, in a portion where a connection portion of the external lead and the middle foil is sealed (Abstract). With respect to Fig. 2 of Sekia, a

reflective film is provided on the surface of the portion where the connection portion (welded) (32) of the external lead (30) and the metal foil (24) is sealed (col. 7, lines 22-26).

It is asserted in the Office Action, at the bottom of page 2 and the top of page 3, that a reflector film of Seki corresponds to the second reflector recited in the pending claims. Seki does not disclose a second reflector arranged on a front side with respect to the light emitting portion, and the second reflector being attached to the sealing portion located on the front side, so that its reflection surface may surround substantially a front half of the light emitting portion, as positively recited in the pending claims. The reflective film of Seki reflects light irradiating the connection portion of the sealing portion, and therefore the temperature increase of the connection portion during lamp operation can be suppressed (col. 7, lines 31-35). As such, Seki discloses that the reflector film is completely disposed on the connector portion and is significantly removed from the front half of the light emitting portion. Therefore, the reflector film of Seki is not arranged so that its reflection surface may surround substantially a front half of the light emitting portion.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Company of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Applicant respectfully asserts that the Office Action has not established a *prima facie* case of anticipation because Seki fails to disclose that the second reflector is attached to said sealing portion located on the front side, so that its reflection surface may surround substantially the front half of said light emitting portion. Specifically, for at least the above reason, Seki cannot reasonably be considered to teach, or to have suggested, the combination of all the features recited in the rejected claims.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 11-14, 19, 20, 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Seki is respectfully requested.

It is asserted in the Office Action, in paragraph 2, that claims 3-6, 9, 10, 15-18, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Seki and U.S. Patent No. 6,784,601 to Kai et al. (hereinafter "Kai"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

It is conceded in the Office Action, in paragraph 3, that Seki does not disclose an electrode shaft that is longer/thicker or has a thicker wall on a front side than a rear-side electrode shaft, as positively recited in at least independent claims 3, 5, 9, 15, 17 and 21. The Office Action relies on Kai to overcome this deficiency. Kai discloses a lamp device using a high-pressure vapor discharge lamp, particularly to an improvement for controlling the influence of the generation of heat, which accompanies an increase in lamp power and a reduction in the size of a reflector (Abstract).

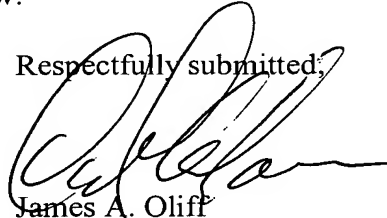
Kai does not overcome the deficiency of Seki, at least as applied to the subject matter recited in independent claims 3, 5, 9, 15, 17 and 21 for at least the above reason, i.e., that Seki fails to disclose that the second reflector is attached to said sealing portion located on the front side, so that its reflection surface may surround substantially the front half of said light emitting portion. Further, in view of at least the dependence of claims 4, 6, 10, 16, 18 and 22, directly or indirectly, on independent claims 3, 5, 9, 15, 17 and 21, no permissible combination of Kai and Seki can reasonably be considered to have suggested the combination of features recited in these claims.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 3-6, 9, 10, 15-18, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over any combination of the applied references are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-24 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 7, 2006

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